

To:

HealthCheck
Providers

HMOs and Other
Managed Care
Programs

Policy on Dental Hygienists at HealthCheck Nursing Agencies Revised

This *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* revises Medicaid policy regarding the requirements for application of topical fluoride and/or dental sealants by dental hygienists at a certified HealthCheck nursing agency.

Topical Application of Fluoride and/or Dental Sealants by Dental Hygienists

Effective for dates of service on and after June 1, 2004, dental hygienists may place topical fluoride and/or dental sealants at a HealthCheck nursing agency under one of the following:

- A dentist's order.
- A physician's order.
- An agency protocol.

When acting under a physician's order or agency protocol, authorization by a licensed dentist is no longer required.

This revises policy previously published in the June 2001 *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* (2001-16), titled "Dental sealants are now a covered HealthCheck service for all Medicaid recipients under age 21," and the February 2004 *Update* (2004-14), titled "Wisconsin Medicaid coverage of topical application of fluoride for children."

Information Regarding Medicaid HMOs

This *Update* contains Medicaid fee-for-service policy and applies to providers of services to recipients on fee-for-service Medicaid only. For Medicaid HMO or managed care policy, contact the appropriate managed care organization. Wisconsin Medicaid HMOs are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements.

The *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Although the *Update* refers to Medicaid recipients, all information applies to BadgerCare recipients also.

Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare are administered by the Division of Health Care Financing, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, P.O. Box 309, Madison, WI 53701-0309.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our Web site at dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/.

PHC 1250